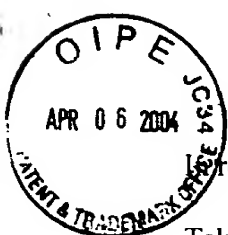


2621

#6

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04/21/04



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Parent application of : **Confirmation No. 5338**  
Takanori ISHIDA et al. : **Docket No. 2001-1440A**  
Serial No. 09/960,324 : **Group Art Unit 2621**  
Filed September 24, 2001 :

IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS, IMAGE  
DECODING METHOD, AND PROGRAM  
STORAGE MEDIUM

**RECEIVED**

**APR 08 2004**

**Technology Center 2600**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☒ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.


3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. ☒ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 6,
  - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☒ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Takanori ISHIDA et al.

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April 6, 2004

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.  
2001-1440ASERIAL NO.  
09/960,324LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT  
Takanori ISHIDA et al.FILING DATE  
September 24, 2001GROUP  
2621

Date Submitted to PTO: April 6, 2004

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,850,258	12/1998	Kang			
	AB	5,774,206	6/1998	Wasserman et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	1021043A2	7/2000	EP			
	AK	0954181A2	11/1999	EP			
	AL	1120977A1	8/2001	EP			
	AM						
	AN						

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 1997, no. 08, August 29, 1997 & JP 09 093577 A (TOSHIBA CORP), April 1997.
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED